

# Putting the Action in HIM: AHIMA Introduces the ACE Challenge

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Times of enormous change require change agents: people with the vision, expertise, and leadership skills necessary to lead transformation.

AHIMA is calling all HIM change agents to create ACE, the Action Community for e-HIM® Excellence. The program launches this month and is designed to energize leadership skills and mobilize the association's rich network of e-HIM expertise.

The ACE Challenge identifies, prepares, engages, mentors, and recognizes those working to transform HIM practice and lead the migration to fully electronic practice. The program recruits and develops leaders that can share knowledge and mentor others. Developing our HIM expertise can make a difference throughout the entire healthcare system, promoting quality care through quality information.

## 51,000 Acts that Transform HIM

ACE members lead and influence e-HIM, making a difference in their organizations, communities, states, and at the national level. ACE members are catalysts. They turn ideas into reality, form alliances, and move forward those reluctant to change. They:

- Participate in regional health information exchange activities
- Lead data quality improvement efforts within their organizations
- Speak at state or national HIM conferences
- Inform and influence health IT discussions within their organizations
- Contribute to the design of next-generation HIM applications
- Collaborate in advancing HIM practice in their communities
- Mentor students and new professionals, launching them into great careers

ACE members join the challenge through recommendation or self-nomination. They match their skills and interests with volunteer and career-building opportunities.

ACE members form the preferred pool of experts and the network of peers transforming HIM through mentoring, writing, speaking, and testifying for AHIMA and its 52 Component State Associations. They attain personal recognition through their volunteer activities and are acknowledged through letters from AHIMA to their employers. They log their volunteer activities so that the program can track its goal of 51,000 acts that are transforming HIM practice—one for each AHIMA member.

The first step in joining ACE and participating in the challenge is an online self-assessment of professional experience and personal characteristics.

## Coming July 20

The program launches July 20 at the AHIMA Leadership Conference in Chicago. The online nomination form and the self-assessment go live the same day at [www.ahima.org/ace](http://www.ahima.org/ace).

AHIMA encourages you to nominate colleagues, explore the program yourself, and consider joining the challenge. As the community grows, ACE member names, expertise, and contact information will be available through the Web site. Individuals and CSAs are encouraged to turn to this group when seeking mentors, presenters, and authors. Together we will create the 51,000 acts that help transform HIM.

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